IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF

ZELLER, MARTIN

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP2003/013716

I.A. FILING DATE: 4 DECEMBER 2003 U.S. APPLICATION NO: 10/537,408

35 USC §371 DATE: 05 OCTOBER 2005

FOR: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PHENYLMALONIC ACID

DINITRILES

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

The Office Action mailed on October 3, 2006 has a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 3, 2006. This Amendment and Response represents a complete response thereto.

Applicants do not believe a fee is due in association with this Response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 50-1676 in the name of Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

USPTO Customer No. 26748 Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. Patent and Trademark Dept. 410 Swing Road Greensboro, NC 27409 (336) 632-7895

Date: January 3, 2007

/JACQUELINE HALEY/ Jacqueline Haley Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 41,457